

Building a Bear Resistant Enclosure

- 🐾 Use a minimum of 5/8 plywood, 2 x 4 construction, and screws instead of nails.
- 🐾 Use heavy duty hinges, and latches that are strong enough that they can't be pried open by claws.
- 🐾 Use metal flashing to cover seams so that claws can't get into them.
- 🐾 The enclosure should be secured so that it can't be tipped over.
- 🐾 If you can get into it without using your hands, by jumping on it, kicking it, or using your shoulders - it isn't bear resistant.
- 🐾 Go to www.juneau.org/bears for illustrations and specifications on bear resistant enclosures.

Learn More About Bears!

You can find out more about living with bears from the following web sites:

Build your own Bear Resistant Enclosure

<http://www.juneau.org/bears/>

Living in Bear Country

<http://www.juneau.org/bears/publications.php>

Living in Harmony with Bears - Bears and Food

www.state.ak.us/adfg/wildlife/geninfo/game/harmony.htm

Bear Facts: Traveling in Bear Country

www.state.ak.us/adfg/wildlife/geninfo/game/bearfax.htm

Safe Camp Kitchens in BEAR COUNTRY



Don't attract bears to your camp kitchen!

Provided by the ADEC
Division of Environmental
Health
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501

BEARS LIKE GARBAGE

Bears like anything smelly or edible. If bears get into food or garbage at your camp, they will become "food conditioned" and keep coming back.

A FED BEAR IS A DEAD BEAR

Food conditioned bears become aggressive and dangerous. They cause problems in areas where there are people, and often have to be destroyed.

ELIMINATE ATTRACTANTS

Follow these guidelines to make sure that bears are not attracted to your camp kitchen. Keeping bears away from food and garbage is the best way to avoid conflicts between bears and people.

BEAR RESISTANT ENCLOSURES

- 🐾 A bear resistant enclosure is one that you can't get into without using your hands or tools.



- 🐾 If it can be opened by stomping on it, kicking it or running into it with your body it isn't bear resistant.
- 🐾 Plans for building a bear resistant enclosure can be found at www.juneau.org/bears/.

GARBAGE DISPOSAL

- 🐾 Incinerate garbage daily in a fuel fired incinerator that meets ADEC standards for combustible residue.
- 🐾 Haul it daily to an approved regional disposal site surrounded by a bear proof fence.
- 🐾 Do not bury or burn garbage - it will still attract bears!

GARBAGE STORAGE

- 🐾 Store garbage in a bear resistant enclosure or container.
- 🐾 Examples include a shed, a steel drum with locking lid, or a steel shipping container.

FOOD

- 🐾 Keep human and livestock food in a bear resistant building or bear proof container.
- 🐾 Build a bear proof fence around the camp, dining halls, kitchens or sleeping areas.

ODORS

- 🐾 Wash cans, bottles and other items to remove food smells.
- 🐾 Reduce odors by cleaning garbage containers with bleach or ammonia.
- 🐾 Double bag smelly items.
- 🐾 Separate wet garbage and keep it in an airtight container.